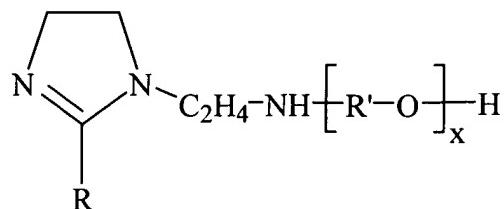


1      **WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:**

- 2      1.      A fluid having utility in subterranean wells, said fluid comprising:  
3                  an oleaginous fluid; and  
4                  a solids tolerance agent having the formula:



5  
6      wherein R is a C<sub>6</sub> to C<sub>20</sub> aliphatic group and R' is a C<sub>2</sub> to C<sub>6</sub> aliphatic group and x  
7                  has a value from about 1 to about 10.  
8

- 
- 9      2.      The fluid of claim 1, wherein R' is selected from ethyl and isopropyl.  
10  
11     3.      The fluid of claim 1 wherein R is unsaturated.  
12  
13     4.      The fluid of claim 1 wherein said oleaginous fluid comprises from about 30% to  
14                  about 99% by volume of said fluid.  
15  
16     5.      The fluid of claim 1 wherein said oleaginous fluid further comprising from about  
17                  5% to about 100% by volume of the oleaginous fluid of a material selected from a group  
18                  consisting of diesel oil, mineral oil, synthetic oil, esters, ethers, acetals, di-  
19                  alkylcarbonates, olefins, and combinations thereof.  
20  
21     6.      The fluid of claim 1, further comprising a non-oleaginous fluid.  
22  
23     7.      The fluid of claim 6 wherein said non-oleaginous fluid comprises from about 1%  
24                  to about 70% by volume of said fluid.  
25

1       8.     The fluid of claim 6 wherein said non-oleaginous fluid is selected from the group  
2 consisting of sea water, a brine containing organic or inorganic dissolved salts, a liquid  
3 containing water-miscible organic compounds, and combinations thereof.

4

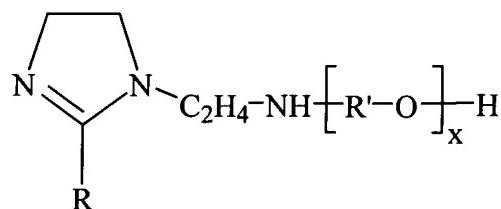
5 9. The fluid of claim 1 further comprising a weighting agent or a bridging agent.

6

7 10. The fluid of claim 9 wherein the weighting or bridging agent is selected from the  
8 group consisting of calcium carbonate, dolomite, siderite, barite, celestite, iron oxides,  
9 manganese oxides, ulexite, carnalite, sodium chloride and combinations thereof

10

11     11. An invert emulsion fluid having utility for drilling, completing, or working over  
12     subterranean wells, said fluid comprising:



20

wherein R is a C<sub>6</sub> to C<sub>20</sub> aliphatic group and R' is a C<sub>2</sub> to C<sub>6</sub> aliphatic group and x has a value from about 1 to about 10.

23

24 12. The invert emulsion fluid of claim 11 wherein R' is selected from ethyl and  
25 isopropyl.

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1

2     13.   The invert emulsion fluid of claim 11 wherein R is unsaturated.

3

4     14.   The invert emulsion fluid of claim 11 wherein said oleaginous fluid further  
5   comprising from about 5 to about 100% by volume of the oleaginous fluid of a material  
6   selected from a group consisting of diesel oil, mineral oil, a synthetic oil, esters, ethers,  
7   acetals, di-alkylcarbonates, hydrocarbons, and combinations thereof.

8

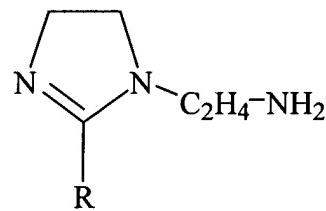
9     15.   The invert emulsion fluid of claim 11 wherein said non-oleaginous liquid is  
10 selected from the group consisting of sea water, a brine containing organic or inorganic  
11 dissolved salts, a liquid containing water-miscible organic compounds, and combinations  
12 thereof.

13

14     16.   The invert emulsion fluid of claim 11 wherein R is unsaturated.

15

16     17.   A fluid having utility in subterranean wells, said fluid comprising:  
17               an oleaginous fluid and  
18               a solids tolerance agent that is the product of the reaction of an alkylene  
19               oxide with an imidazoline of a fatty acid having the formula



20

21               wherein R is a C<sub>6</sub> to C<sub>20</sub> aliphatic group.

22

23     18.   The fluid of claim 17 wherein the imidazoline is the reaction product of a  
24   condensation reaction of a C<sub>6</sub> to C<sub>20</sub> fatty acid and diethyltriamine.

25

1       19.     The fluid of claim 17 wherein the alkylene oxide is selected from C<sub>2</sub> to C<sub>4</sub>  
2     alkylene oxides.

3

4       20.     The fluid of claim 17 wherein the alkylene oxide is selected from ethylene oxide  
5     and propylene oxide.

6

7       21.     The fluid of claim 17 wherein the molar ratio of imidazoline to alkylene oxide is  
8     from about 2:1 to about 1:10.

9

10      22.     The fluid of claim 17 wherein said oleaginous fluid comprises from about 30% to  
11     about 99% by volume of said fluid.

12

13      23.     The fluid of claim 17 wherein said oleaginous fluid further comprising from about  
14     5% to about 100% by volume of the oleaginous fluid of a material selected from a group  
15     consisting of diesel oil, mineral oil, synthetic oil, esters, ethers, acetals, di-  
16     alkylcarbonates, olefins, and combinations thereof.

17

18      24.     The fluid of claim 17 further comprising a non-oleaginous fluid.

19

20      25.     The fluid of claim 24 wherein said non-oleaginous fluid comprises from about 1%  
21     to about 70% by volume of said fluid.

22

23      26.     The fluid of claim 25 wherein said non-oleaginous fluid is selected from the group  
24     consisting of sea water, a brine containing organic or inorganic dissolved salts, a liquid  
25     containing water-miscible organic compounds, and combinations thereof.

26

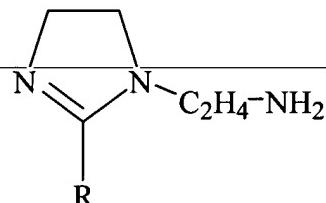
27      27.     The fluid of claim 17 further comprising a weighting agent or a bridging agent.

28

1       28.     The fluid of claim 27 wherein the weighting or bridging agent is selected from the  
2     group consisting of calcium carbonate, dolomite, siderite, barite, celestite, iron oxides,  
3     manganese oxides, ulexite, carnalite, sodium chloride and combinations thereof.

4

5       29.     A method of forming a subterranean well, the method comprising  
6         drilling the subterranean well with a rotary drill bit and a drilling fluid; said  
7         drilling fluid including:  
8                 an oleaginous based continuous phase and  
9                 a solids tolerance agent that is the product of the reaction of an alkylene  
10      oxide with an imidazoline of a fatty acid having the formula



11

12         wherein R is a C<sub>6</sub> to C<sub>20</sub> aliphatic group.

13

14       30.     The fluid of claim 29 wherein the imidazoline is the reaction product of a  
15     condensation reaction of a C<sub>6</sub> to C<sub>20</sub> fatty acid and diethyltriamine.

16

17       31.     The fluid of claim 29 wherein the alkylene oxide is selected from C<sub>2</sub> to C<sub>4</sub>  
18     alkylene oxides.

19

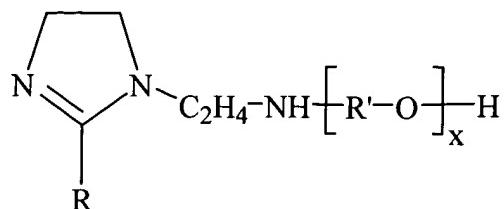
20       32.     The fluid of claim 29 wherein the alkylene oxide is selected from ethylene oxide  
21     and propylene oxide.

22

23       33.     The fluid of claim 29 wherein the molar ratio of imidazoline to alkylene oxide is  
24     from 2:1 to about 1:10.

25

- 1       34.     In a method of rotary drilling a subterranean well using a drilling fluid, the  
2     improvement comprising the use of a drilling fluid including:  
3              an oleaginous fluid; and  
4              a solids tolerance agent having the formula:



5  
6       wherein R is a  $C_6$  to  $C_{20}$  aliphatic group and R' is a  $C_2$  to  $C_6$  aliphatic group and x  
7       has a value from about 1 to about 10.  
8

- 9       35.     The fluid of claim 34, wherein R' is selected from ethyl and isopropyl.  
10  
11      36.     The fluid of claim 34 wherein R is unsaturated.  
12